



May 26-27, 2018

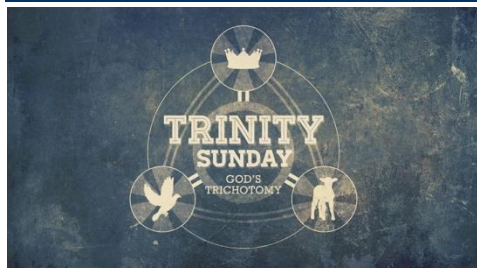


THE WEEKLY CONNECTION

ONE IN JESUS...REACHING MANY!

Week of May 27, 2018

WORSHIP CELEBRATION



The song “Holy, Holy, Holy” (LSB 507) ends with the words “God in three persons, blessed Trinity”. While “Trinity” is a human word which attempts to encompass an incomprehensible God, the Bible clearly tells us of the relationship our God has with us as revealed in three persons - the Father, who loves us and sent His Only Son, the Son, who out of His great love willingly laid down His life in order to give us life, and the Spirit who comforts,

guides, and nourishes with the love of both the Father and the Son. How incredible it is that our God, the incomprehensible Trinity, clearly tells us that we are loved with an everlasting, inseparable, and constant loving relationship. We join together in worship this weekend as we receive that love from the Eternal God: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit!



HOLY BAPTISM – TODAY during the 9:30 AM Traditional Praise worship service, we celebrate the baptism of Timothy Joseph Miscovich III, son of Tim & Danielle. May God richly bless Timothy and his family!

ALTAR FLOWERS are placed in thanksgiving to God for Mark & Margaret Hall’s 35th wedding anniversary.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE UPDATE “And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together... but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.”—Hebrews 10:24-25

Attendance for the weekend of May 19-20.....886

BIBLICAL DISCOVERY



GET INTO THE WORD THIS SPRING – This Spring brings many new opportunities at St. John to grow in your faith through God's Word! From children to seniors, internationals to parenting, Bible basics to more in-depth studies, there is truly something for everyone, no matter your age, life circumstances or schedule! Take a big step as a family in your faith walk with Jesus! To learn more, be sure to pick up the spring GET INTO

THE WORD brochure. In it you will find the listing of Bible Class selections for Sundays, as well as Sunday School and those classes held during the week. Brochures are available in easel racks in the Atrium and just outside the Sanctuary, as well as on our St. John website.

All articles submitted to *The Weekly Connection* will be subject to approval and editing by the staff. Articles may be sent via email to connection@stjohnrochester.org and must be received no later than Wednesday at noon the week of publication.

SUMMER BIBLE CLASS BEGINS ON SUNDAY, JUNE 17! The Sunday morning Adult Bible Class will soon begin a 9-week summer series on St. Paul's "Letters to the Churches of Asia Minor". These lessons are from Dr. Bruce Wurdeman's knowledgeable and entertaining series "Stuff They Never Taught You in Sunday School". The presenter chooses stories that you probably never studied before, taken from the 13 Epistles of St. Paul. Enjoy the wit and humor, yet sound Biblical teaching by Dr. Wurdeman via these DVD presentations. Join us in Concordia Hall on the lower level at 9:30 AM, beginning on June 17!

SHARED LIFE



GRAB A CUP OF COFFEE AND INVITE A NEW FRIEND. Following all our Sunday morning services, coffee and refreshments are served in Luther Hall. What a wonderful opportunity it is to get to know someone in worship with us. What a great way to be the church by encouraging each other in Jesus' name!

NEW SECURITY PROCEDURES – As a part of our ongoing process of implementing tighter building security in an ever changing world, there will be a major shift in daytime building access, **beginning this Thursday, May 31.** Please make note of these key points:

- All building entrances will be locked during daytime hours.
- For building entry, please go to the South Atrium door (Door 9) and press the intercom button. A staff member will respond to assist you.
- Upon entry, please sign in at the Main Office. This is important for all to do, whether frequent guests well known by the staff, or first time guests.
- For the time being, building access for evening meetings will continue as before, without the need to press the intercom for entry or to sign in.

We are still in the process of fine tuning our daytime and evening procedures, but this will give us a good start. While these new procedures may cause some inconvenience, we are very grateful for your understanding and cooperation as we seek to provide a secure yet welcoming church and school home. If you have any questions, please contact the Main Office at 248-402-8050. Thank you!

OWLS (Older Wiser Lutherans in Service) - The OWLS Planning Committee has scheduled a special presentation on Friday, June 8 at 12:00 PM. Terry Gonser, a St. John family member, will be discussing the Veterans Tribute of Oakland Township project. The site for this tribute is on Adams Road, south of Silverbell Road. Come join us for a Potluck Picnic at 12:00 PM on Friday, June 8 in Concordia Hall. The OWLS will be providing hot dogs with buns, and sodas. We will need you to provide the rest of the meal. Last name A-N, please provide salad or veggies, last name O-Z, please provide a dessert. Be sure to provide a serving spoon or fork. We would like to recognize all of the veterans of our congregation at this luncheon. We hope you can attend to get more information on this important community project. Please RSVP to Connie Ulrich (248-652-6159). See you there!

GRIEFSHARE concluded the final week of our spring session on May 19. We will begin another session in the fall, so watch for future dates and times in the Connection. If you have need of support before then, please contact one of our GriefShare leaders: Linda Baroli 248-895-0310, Joanne Curran 248-623-7309 or Marlene Leinberger 586-781-5434.



ST. JOHN'S ANNUAL CONGREGATION MEETING was held last Sunday, May 20 in the Sanctuary. The three key agenda items were (1) the Annual Election of Elders, Foundation Governors and Vestry (2) the approval of the 2018-2019 Annual Ministry Budget, and (3) the ONE Legacy Future Direction.

ELECTION: Those elected to lay leader positions (beginning on 7-1-18) were:

Elders: Paul Charen, Tom Chmiel, Tim Dameron, Bob Danielson, Jeff Kadzielewski, Dave Schulz, Larry Wroza

Foundation: Matt Hiler, Nick Oleskie

Vestry: Scott Mattox, Mark Rafdal, Dave Scharrer

Many thanks to all who agreed to run for office and to those who have now completed their terms as elected lay leaders - **Elders:** Jerry Best, George Flemming, Joel Neumeyer, Mark Rafdal, Russ Schmidt; **Foundation Governors:** Dave Hofmeister, Tom Vitu; **Vestry:** Kathy Davis, Wayne Kunze. We are all blessed by your willingness to serve!

BUDGET: Additionally, the Congregation voted unanimously to approve the 2018-19 ministry year budget of \$3,817,060 as presented. These are exciting times and the Lord is working among us to respond with increasing generosity to make an eternal difference in Jesus' name!

CAMPUS MASTER PLAN: Exciting news! In follow-up to over two years of preparation, planning and praying, "Lord, what would you have us do?", our St. John family officially voted to move forward with proposed campus renovation and expansion plans! Groundbreaking is anticipated to occur early next spring! Beyond adding greater excellence and needed space to expanding onsite church and school ministry, a significant portion of all funds raised for the project (\$3.5 million pledged so far) will also benefit area inner cities (Pontiac and Detroit) as well as global mission partners to make an eternal difference in Jesus' name! Praise God from whom all blessings flow!



MICHAEL HANSEN ORDINATION UPDATE – As previously shared, upon completing his seminary training this spring, Michael Hansen (son of our congregation) received a Divine Call to serve as Associate Pastor of St. Matthew Lutheran Church & School in Walled Lake/Wixom, MI. Please continue to keep Michael in your prayers as he prepares to begin his pastoral ministry at St. Matthew soon. Also, mark your calendar for **Sunday, July 1 at 3:00 PM** and plan to attend his ordination celebration here at St. John, followed by an appetizer reception! If you are interested in helping plan the reception, please contact

Lynette Novack in the Pastoral Office at lnovack@stjohnrochester.org or 248-402-8020.

WALK, RUN OR BIKE WITH THE ST. JOHN RUNNERS GROUP

This group is for all new and accomplished runners and bikers looking for fellowship, fitness and fun. Lace up your running shoes or grab your bike and join us every Saturday at 7:30 AM. We meet and start with prayer at Rochester Park off Ludlow St. before heading to the Paint Creek Trail. Hope to see you there! Please contact Julie Schmidt at 586-864-4768 or salyetja@gmail.com or Nicole Buday at 248-520-3383 or quadlevel@gmail.com if you have any questions.



CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

ST. JOHN DAY SCHOOL NEWS:

Track Team Results: The St. John Track & Field team had an impressive showing at the Regional Meet on Saturday, May 19, setting 22 personal records! The team is now preparing for the State Championships on June 2 in Frankenmuth. The team coaches are Mr. Todd Bauer, St. John Athletic Director/6th grade teacher, as well as volunteer coaches Mr. Paul Rice, Mr. Mike Toth and Mrs. Carol Teelander. Go Eagles!

Preschool Rocks: Thank you to Mrs. Prentice and her Pre-K 4's Afternoon and Extension classes who decorated lovely Ladybug rocks to help decorate the main entrance earlier this week. They also planted flowers (donated by the Pre-K families) near the school sign to help beautify our campus.

Spring Concert: Join us next Thursday, May 31 for a beautiful Spring Concert for 5th to 8th grade bands and choirs.

Selecting a school is a big decision! St. John offers Preschool to 8th grade on our campus, including half and full day Kindergarten options. Students learn daily about their Savior Jesus, receive outstanding academics, have the opportunity to participate in a variety of extra-curricular activities, and are able to enjoy many programs and services such as free bus transportation and a daily in-house lunch program. Most preschool sessions are full, with afternoon availability only, and limited Kindergarten spaces remain. For a tour, enrollment information, or to learn more about how St. John Lutheran School might be the right school for your child, contact Beth Dameron, Director of School Admissions at bdameron@stjohnrochester.org/248-402-8012.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL IS ALMOST HERE! LIMITED SPACES LEFT! Mark your calendar for June 18-22, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM as *Shipwrecked; Rescued by Jesus* comes to St. John! Students age 4 through those entering 6th grade are welcome to join us. Kids will discover that Jesus rescues them when life gets stormy. *Shipwrecked* is filled with incredible Bible-learning experiences kids see, hear, touch, and even taste! Scieny-Fun Gizmos, team-building games, cool Bible songs, and tasty treats are just a few of the standout activities that help faith flow into real life. Plus, we'll help kids discover how to see evidence of God in everyday life - something we call God Sightings. Come one, come all to an amazing week of VBS! T-shirts for the kids will be available for \$10 each during the week of VBS. To register for VBS, visit our St. John website and look for the colorful VBS rotator on the homepage! **PLEASE NOTE** – We are excited that about 360 children have already been registered for VBS! That only leaves about 40 spots still available, since we will need to cap our number at 400 children. Praise God for this amazing opportunity to touch so many young lives with the love of Jesus!

SPRINGHILL DAY CAMP is returning to St. John on July 9-13! Day camp is five full days of summer fun for children entering grades 1-6 in the fall. Camp includes small group Bible teaching, high-energy large group sessions, and high-adventure activities including archery, bungee trampoline, camp songs, climbing wall, crafts, and so much more – all right here at St. John! For more information and to register, check out the SpringHill website at www.springhilldaycamp.com.



CAMP CONCORDIA - If you are looking for a great camp experience this summer for your kids, please consider a great resident camp opportunity for kids in 1st-8th grade. This Lutheran summer camp is an awesome outdoor camp for kids. Mr. Steve Wilson will be helping Camp Concordia the week of June 24-29 for 3rd-6th graders. If you send your child that week, make sure they say hi to Steve! Visit www.campconcordia.org for more information or to register your child for camp.

LIGHTHOUSE – All 6th-8th graders are invited to join us for Lighthouse, our weekly Middle School Youth Ministry time. We meet in the gym each week for games and activities and then go to Room 101 for Bible Study. For more information, please contact Steve Wilson, Director of Child and Family Ministry, at swilson@stjohnrochester.org.



SUMMER SPORTS CAMPS AT LUTHERAN HIGH NORTHWEST! Do you have a 4th-8th grader who enjoys sports? Lutheran High Northwest is hosting a number of summer sports camps this year! Girls & Boys Basketball Camps will be June 11-14, Soccer Camp will be June 25-28, and Football and Volleyball Camps are on July 9-12. Register now at www.lhnw.lhsa.com.



HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH – Thank you, St. John Family! You blessed us with exactly \$1,100.00 from our cookout last weekend! Many thanks to Sue Wood who took the leftovers to Hope Warming Center. Officer Mark of the local police stopped by during our cookout and we were able to pray over him and thank him for his service. It was a great day!

Prayers for a safe weekend and time spent with friends and family! We will be playing shaving cream wiffleball against the middle school students on June 3. We will meet on the baseball field. Game

followed by ice cream and a devotion! Join us from 6:00 to 8:00 PM!

For more information, contact Melissa Hammett, Director of High School Youth Ministry, at mhammett@stjohnrochester.org.

SACRIFICIAL GENEROSITY



VBS DONATIONS: In addition to many volunteers, VBS is in need of many items for that week, including snacks, decorating items, etc. Please stop by the table in Luther Hall to find out what snack items are needed. Also, if you have any of the following items you can donate to be used (or borrowed for the week), please contact Steve Wilson (swilson@stjohnrochester.org) or Jamie Rawcliffe (jamie.rawcliffe@gmail.com):

brown paper grocery bags, cardboard boxes, pool noodles, empty water bottles, wooden pallets. The following are items we would like to borrow and return to you after VBS: wooden oars, vintage luggage, fake palm trees, a wooden ship's wheel, tiki torches, & wooden barrels.



MITE BOXES: Don't forget your Mite Boxes next week, the 1st Sunday of the month!

CAN DIAPERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN JESUS' NAME?! When it comes to helping local moms and babies in need, the answer is a huge yes! Please join your St. John family in making a huge difference by bringing in packages of diapers over the next several weeks (up until Father's Day weekend) as we create a mountain of diapers in the church and school Atrium! Diapers of all sizes are appreciated! This annual diaper shower will directly benefit our awesome mission partner, Crossroads Care Center in Auburn Hills. For more information, please contact Dale Griffith at 248-894-8423.



GOLF “FORE” LIFE – Time is running out to sign up! Get your foursome together and join in the Crossroads Care Center’s annual Golf “Fore” Life outing on Monday, June 4 at Oakland University. If you’re not a golfer, there are still great opportunities for you to get involved. For detailed information on this event, visit www.crossroadscarecenter.org. Crossroads Care Center (a primary mission partner of St. John) seeks to promote the sanctity of human life while providing care and resources for women and their unborn children in the Rochester area.

WEEKLY FINANCIAL UPDATE

“You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God!” - 2 Corinthians 9:11. Thank you so much for your ongoing generosity that allows us to make an eternal impact in Jesus’ name!

GENERAL MISSION & MINISTRY Offerings for May 19-20.....\$48,890.15
Special Contributions for May 19-20.....\$410.00

As of 5/20/18 Y.T.D. Budgeted Offerings:	\$ 1,980,914.54
As of 5/20/18 Y.T.D. Actual Offerings:	\$ 2,030,632.87
As of 5/20/18 Y.T.D. Variance to Budget:	\$ 49,718.33
As of 5/20/18 Y.T.D. Special Contributions:	\$70,464
<i>(St. John’s fiscal year is 7/1/17 through 6/30/18.)</i>	

ONE LEGACY INITIATIVE

As of 5/24/18 Y.T.D. Amount pledged.....	\$3,455,994.79
As of 5/24/18 Y.T.D. Amount received.....	\$825,207.96

COMPASSIONATE SERVICE



VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED FOR VBS JUNE 18-22 - VBS is coming quickly! We still need volunteers to help serve as crew leaders, snack helpers, and Imagination Station helpers. We need people all week but if you can make it 2 days or more we can really use your help. This year we are planning to have 400+ students and we need help to keep them safe and share the love of Jesus. Almost 50% of these students probably don’t have a church home, and this is a great opportunity to reach many with the love of Christ. Sign up today to volunteer for VBS at www.stjohnrochester.org/VBS.

SPRINGHILL DAY CAMP – MAKE A DIFFERENCE! We are in need of helpers for Spring Hill Day Camp. We host camp here at St. John July 9-13. We need host homes, CIT’s (Counselors in Training) and food helpers. Host homes provide a bed for the counselors for the week and breakfast each morning. It is a great opportunity to serve the counselors for the week. Counselors in Training are people in Grades 9-12 who want to help the counselors for the week. They play games with kids, and serve alongside SpringHill staff. Lastly, food helpers help prepare meals for our camp staff for the week. If you have the gift of service and are



available during the day for these positions, please contact Steve Wilson, Director of Child and Family Ministry, at swilson@stjohnrochester.org.

SPECIAL NEEDS BUDDY MINISTRY: We are in need of some more helpers for the summer months. This is an amazing opportunity to help out families in need of a break in order to worship. We provide buddies for special needs children so their parents are able to worship. If you might be interested in helping, please contact Steve Wilson, Director of Child and Family Ministry, at swilson@stjohnrochester.org.

OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE! On Sunday mornings we have many little ones in need of care in our church nursery while their parents are in worship. Our current ministry team is in need of some more helpers. If you might have availability on Sunday mornings to help watch our precious little children, please contact Steve Wilson, Director of Child and Family ministry, at 248-402-8006.

VOLUNTEER WITH NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE (a primary mission partner of St. John), where they welcome and need your assistance. Volunteers share their time and talents on a regular basis at the Clothes Closet, Food Pantry, and at their Main Office. They also have opportunities for volunteers to help with special projects and events from home or from one of their locations. Their volunteer program is very organized and offers volunteers maximum flexibility. To learn more about volunteering, contact Neighborhood House at volunteer@ranh.org or 248-651-5836.

CONSTANT PRAYER

PRAYER WALL - This week during our School Chapel, we spent time taking prayer requests. With those requests, we have put together a prayer wall just outside of the gymnasium. If you are interested, we welcome you to add your prayers to the wall. Students, staff, parents, and others will be praying for those things during the next two weeks. We encourage you to be in prayers with us.

WE WOULD LOVE TO PRAY FOR WHATEVER IS ON YOUR HEART. To submit a prayer request, please text or email it to prayer@stjohnrochester.org at any time or fill out a Prayer Request Card and hand to an usher during worship. These requests are received by our pastors and are passed along when requested to be included in the weekly prayer list that is sent out to our prayer warriors and included in weekend worship.



THIS WEEK:

Thanksgiving: All newly elected St. John leaders, Those able to attend congregational meeting and their participation in the process, Mark & Margaret Hall's 35th wedding anniversary, Baptism of Timothy Joseph Miscovich III - son of Tim and Danielle, Mark and Cheryl Rafdal's 37th wedding anniversary

Guidance & Strength: Continued blessings as we move forward with Phase One of the One Legacy Initiative, Kierstin and Dana 15y olds currently incarcerated

Hope & Healing: Safe pregnancy for Liz Rhoda (Runey), Craig Juleff – esophageal cancer, Tracy Smith – hospice, Linda Madson, Barb Roy – stroke, Roger Guetzkow – upcoming surgery

Bereavement: (Family of...) Pastor Derrick Bonn

Nation & World: Remembering those who made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom

LAST WEEK:

Thanksgiving: Don and Jean Susewitt 60th wedding anniversary, Baptism of Carter Erwin Venglar, son of Brian & Ashley, Joan Sebastian's 90th birthday

Hope & Healing: Becky Mancier – continued recovery from cancer surgery, Kenneth Brown – thanksgiving for continued healing, Marilyn Miller, Russ Schmidt, Hailey Noonan, Clyoe Kamm – recovering from surgery, Vanessa – chemotherapy, Karl Barton – upcoming back surgery, Sonja Marr - surgery

Bereavement: (Family of...) Jack Holloway (father of Jeff)

Nation & World: Victims & Families in the Santa Fe, Texas school shootings

PRIOR WEEK:

Thanksgiving: Baptism of Giuliana Rose Saputo, daughter of William and Krystin, Birth of Ezra James Mandrick (grandson of John and Loraine Boyer), Bob & Ann Danielson – minor injuries in a major car crash

Guidance & Strength: Bill Hammond

Hope & Healing: Terri Turner – knee surgery, Fred Meinberg, Fran Schuessler – recovering at home, Two Marines injured in friendly fire – comrades of Jon Taykowski (Jake's brother)

Bereavement: (Family of...) Kim Hude (49y cousin of Ann Danielson), Robert Standfest Sr. (father of Bob)

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN	
OFFICE HOURS THIS WEEK	FACILITY HOURS THIS WEEK
Monday: OFFICE CLOSED	Monday: FACILITY CLOSED
Tuesday - Friday: 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM	Tuesday - Friday: 7:00 AM – 10:00 PM
	Saturday: 8:00 AM – 6:00 PM
* The facility may be closed on Saturdays when no daytime events are scheduled.	

Sunday	
9:30 AM	Adult Bible Study (Romans) – Concordia Hall
Monday	Memorial Day – Facility Closed
Tuesday	
9:00 AM	Apples of Gold – Offsite
11:30 AM	International Bible Class – Room 128
1:00 PM	ESL Class – Concordia Hall
7:00 PM	Women’s Bible Study (Discerning the Voice of God) – Church Library
Wednesday	
8:00 AM	Coffee Perk – Atrium
8:45 AM	School Awards Chapel – Church Sanctuary
9:30 AM	Special Needs Support Group – Mary Martha Room
Thursday	New Security Procedures Begin – see related article
7:00 PM	School Spring Concert – Church Sanctuary
8:00 PM	Alcoholics Anonymous – Concordia Hall
Friday	
8:00 AM	LCEF Stamp Sales – Atrium
9:00 AM	ESL Class – Concordia Hall
Saturday	
5:00 PM	Modern Praise Worship – Gymnasium



Worship Celebration Schedule

Traditional Praise: Sundays @ 8:00 AM | 9:30 AM | 11:00 AM

Modern Praise: Saturdays @ 5:00 PM | Sundays @ 10:45 AM

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